

PINK BOLLWORM PROGRAM – WEEKLY REPORT

42 YEARS OF SERVICE TO COTTON GROWERS



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Pink Bollworm Activities

Southern California:

Native Pink Bollworm (PBW) moths continue to be captured at very low levels. Only 108 native moths have been captured to date in the Blythe/Palo Verde Valley area, compared to 984 by the same time in 2008. This is an 89% reduction from 2008 and a 99.9% reduction from the 121,934 native PBW captured in 2007. Sterile moth releases over Blythe/Palo Verde Valley cotton began on Wednesday.

Imperial Valley native PBW trap captures are even lower with only 2 so far this season, compared to 101 in 2008 (-98%) and 13,228 in 2007 (-99.9%).

San Joaquin Valley:

Pheromone treatments were made in three cotton fields in Merced County on Tuesday and Wednesday this week. These fields are directly adjacent to the 2008 cotton field with 148 natives captured in 2008 and 3 natives so far this year. Pink Bollworm Program personnel from both the Fresno and Shafter offices performed admirably, including Program Supervisor Jim Rudig, and Senior Economic Entomologist Dan Keaveny.



A single native PBW moth was trapped in Kern County this week near Buttonwillow. There were 72 sterile moths in the trap with the native. This section is already under sterile release and meets the protocol ratio of 70:1 steriles to natives.

Preliminary cotton mapping has been completed in Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, and Tulare Counties. Cotton acreage in the San Joaquin Valley appears to be running about 33% behind last years' acreage.

A total of 8,942,153 sterile moths were released this week. This brings the seasons total released to 43,172,690. The 78 early detection traps in place have detected 4,572 sterile Pink Bollworm moths and four (4) Native Pink Bollworm moths to date.

Sacramento Valley:

The latest heat unit projections indicate mapping and trapping will begin in late August or early September.